

REMARKS

This Response is in response to the Office Action dated February 8, 2006. Claims 1 to 30 are pending and stand rejected. Claims 1, 18, 23 and 28 have been amended herein. No new matter has been introduced by way of the amendments. Claims 15 to 17, 21 and 22 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account 02-1818 for the Two Month Petition for Extension of Time (small entity) and any other fees which are due and owing.

In the Office Action, Claims 1, 3, 6, 7 and 11 to 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,862,709 to Roshaven ("*Roshaven*") and U.S. Patent No. 6,209,769 to Seals et al. ("*Seals*"). Claims 2, 4, 5 and 15 to 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of *Roshaven*, *Seals* and U.S. Patent No. 6,315,179 to Hillis ("*Hillis*"). Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of *Roshaven*, *Seals* and U.S. Patent No. 5,263,618 to Talavera ("*Talavera*"). Claims 9 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of *Roshaven*, *Seals* and U.S. Patent No. 6,182,878 to Racca ("*Racca*"). Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of *Roshaven*, *Seals* and U.S. Patent No. 4,750,652 to Grant ("*Grant*"). Claims 18 to 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of *Seals* and *Hillis*.

In the Office Action Claims 28 to 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Seals*.

Regarding Claim 1, *Roshaven* and *Seals* do not teach or suggest each element of Claim 1, which is directed to a personal item carrying device and includes: (i) a strap configured to be placed over a person and to extend from a first side of the person, along the front of the person, over the shoulder on a second side of the person, and return along the back of the person to the first side; (ii) the strap adjustable via a member fixed to the strap at a first strap position and slidingly engaged to the strap at a second strap position; (iii) the strap also including an opener that enables the strap to be opened and thereafter be placed around the person's midsection and adjusted via the member; and (iv) a carrier supported by the strap, the carrier sized to hold a personal item.

Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 1 and Claims 2 to 14 currently depending from Claim 1 are patentable over the art of record. The patentability of Claim 1 renders the various obviousness rejections of the claims depending from Claim 1 moot.

Regarding Claim 18, *Seals* and *Hillis* do not teach or suggest each element of Claim 18, which is directed to a personal item carrying device including: (i) a strap sized to extend from a first side of a person, along the front of a person, over the shoulder on a second side of the person, and return along the back of the person to the first side; (ii) the strap including (a) a quick release mechanism and (b) an adjustment member fixed to the strap at a first strap position and slidingly engaged to the strap at a second strap position, so that the strap is openable and adjustable to fit over the person's shoulder and around the person's midsection; and (iii) a caddy moveably supported by the strap, the caddy sized to hold a personal item.

Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 18 and Claims 19 and 20 currently depending from Claim 18 are patentable over the art of record. The patentability of Claim 18 renders the obviousness rejection of its dependent claims under *Seals* and *Hillis* moot.

Regarding Claim 23, *Seals* and *Hillis* do not teach or suggest each element of Claim 23, which is directed to a personal item carrying device including: (i) a strap sized to extend from a first side of a person, along the front of the person, over the shoulder on a second side of the person, and return along the back of the person to the first side; and (ii) a caddy including a member having a middle portion, a first flap extending from a first side of the middle portion, a second flap extending from a second side of the middle portion, the first and second flaps configured to fold over the middle portion and around the strap to moveably secure the caddy to the strap, the member when unfolded exposing a first side having a plurality of compartments sized to hold personal items, the caddy including at least one other compartment located on a second side of the member.

Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 23 and Claims 24 to 27 depending from Claim 23 are patentable over the art of record. The patentability of Claim 23 renders the obviousness rejection of its dependent claims under *Seals* and *Hillis* moot.

Regarding Claim 28, *Seals* does not teach or suggest each element of Claim 28, which is directed to a personal item carrying device including: (i) a member including a middle portion, a first flap extending from a first side of the middle portion, a second flap extending from a second side of the middle portion, the first and second flaps operable to fold over the middle portion and

around and couple to a strap and releasably attach to each other; (ii) an inside of the middle portion of the member including multiple card holding slots; and (iii) an outside of the middle portion of the member including a compartment sized to securely hold a cellular phone.

Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 28 and Claims 29 to 30 depending from Claim 28 are patentable over the art of record. The patentability of Claim 28 renders the rejection of its dependent claims under *Seals* moot.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the patent application is in condition for allowance and request a Notice of Allowance be issued.

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